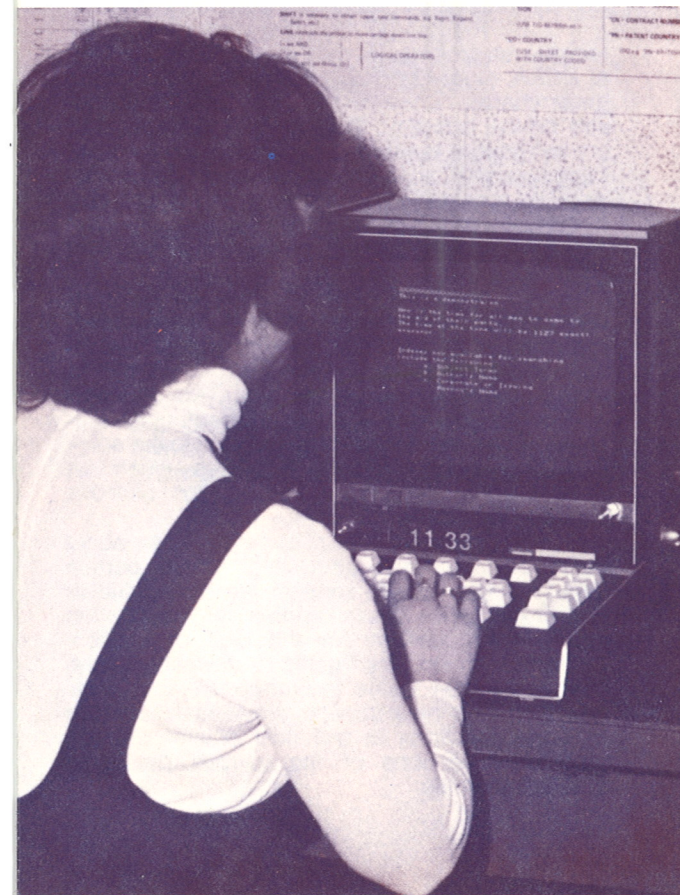


INDEX OASIS

**NOAA Environmental Data
and Information
Referral Service**

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
Environmental Data Service

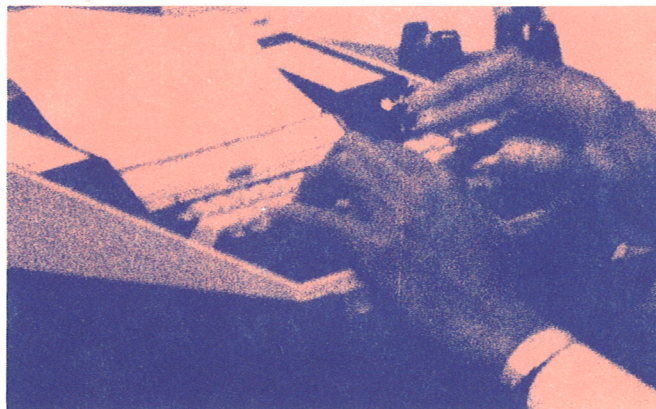
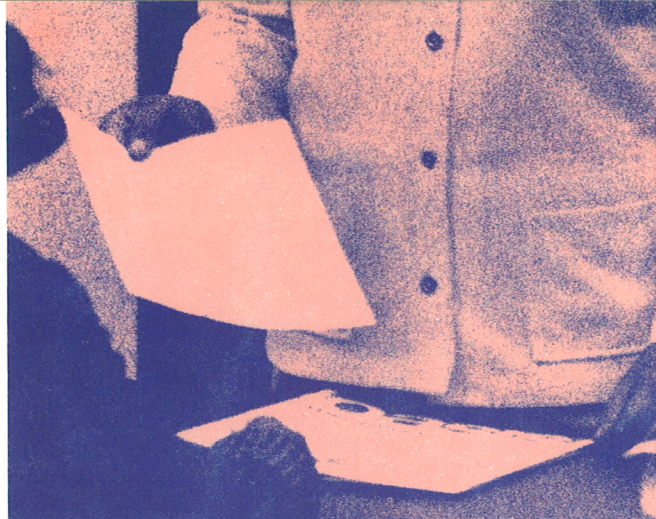


The great mass and variety of environmental data and information available today present potential users with formidable problems in determining what data and information are available and who has them. Answers to these and similar questions are now available through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's environmental data and information referral service. Called ENDEX (from Environmental Data Index)/OASIS (from Oceanic and Atmospheric Scientific Information System), the system has been devised and put into operation by the Commerce Department's Environmental Data Service.

ENDEX/OASIS provides users rapid referral to environmental data and information files of NOAA, other Federal agencies, state and local governments, universities, research institutes, and private industry. Subject areas include, but are not limited to, aeronomy, cartography, climatology, coastal zone management, environment-related engineering, geodesy, hydrography, hydrology, marine biology, marine geology, meteorology, oceanography, as well as space and solar science.

In developing this system, the Environmental Data Service has sought out, documented, and automated selected files of environmental data and information, or arranged for access to such files when already automated. The approach has been one step at a time, beginning with easily accessible collections pertinent to the solution of current national problems—such as coastal zone collections needed for offshore activities related to the energy crisis.

At present, ENDEX references about 6,000 environmental data files. These pertain largely to the coastal zone of the United States and Great Lakes areas. Further file description efforts are underway for the Gulf of Mexico, California, Alaska, the Pacific Northwest, and the east coast from Maine to Florida. On the literature side, the new service provides references to literally millions of technical articles through automated versions of the various published abstract journals.



ENDEX

ENDEX contains computer-searchable descriptions of interdisciplinary files of environmental data on many levels; when these files are large, detailed inventories are also provided. Specifically, ENDEX has three major components:

- Descriptions of data collection efforts.
- Descriptions of data files.
- Detailed inventories of large, commonly used files.

An ENDEX data file description lists the types of parameters and volumes of data available, the methods used to measure them, when and where the data were collected, the sensors and platforms used, data formats, restrictions on data availability, publications in which the data may be found, whom to contact for further information, and the estimated cost of obtaining the data.

ENDEX services and products include:

- Access to specialized indexes of environmental data, grouped by geographic areas, institutions, or disciplines.
- On-line, interactive searches of the indexes to answer specific questions concerning the location of data files.
- A quick determination of the costs of retrieval from large data files.
- Data catalogs of large NOAA environmental data collections.

ENDEX data files' descriptions will be updated every 2 years.

OASIS

OASIS provides a computerized information retrieval service for ready reference to the technical literature and to research in the environmental sciences and marine and coastal resources. It provides computerized searches of both NOAA and non-NOAA data bases containing references to technical publications. OASIS offers access to major bibliographic information files: Meteorological and Geostrophysical Abstracts; Oceanic Abstracts; Biological Abstracts; Engineering Index Compendex; Government Reports Announcements; Information Service in Physics, Computers and Control, and Electrotechnology, National Agricultural Library (CAIN); Scientific and Technical Aerospace Reports and International Aerospace Abstracts.

OASIS services include:

- Retrospective searches: the retrieval of specific subject matter from an entire data base or a specified portion of it. Restrospective searches provide a survey of specific interest area to a user working on relatively short-term projects. Many data bases can be searched on-line with search results available within a few minutes.
- Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI), or current awareness: citations for a given subject area are automatically retrieved from the specific data base as it is updated. SDI provides periodic dissemination of information to the user with relatively long-term needs.

Using ENDEX and OASIS

To use the NOAA/EDS referral services, call, visit, or write any of the NOAA libraries, Environmental Data Service (EDS) centers, or EDS liaison officers. Outline your problem, your environmental field of interest, and whether you need data or information, or both. An Environmental Data Service information specialist will analyze your request and provide the references needed.

Detailed descriptions of referral products and services as well as instructions on how to obtain them are available in the ENDEX/OASIS User's Guide, which is available upon request at any of the centers or libraries listed below.

The locations listed below have on-line computer terminals that provide the user fast service and an opportunity to interact with the data bases.

Marine and Earth Sciences Library

National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
Washington Science Center; Bldg. 1; Rm. 108
6001 Executive Blvd.
Rockville, Maryland 20852
Tel: (301) 443-8022

Atmospheric Sciences Library

National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
Gramax Bldg.; Rm. 816; 8060 13th St.
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910
Tel: (301) 427-7800

Marine and Earth Sciences Library

Attn: Fisheries Branch (D822)
National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
Page Bldg. 2; Rm. 194;
3300 Whitehaven St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20235
Tel: (202) 634-7346

Suitland Information Service Center

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Federal Office Bldg., Room 3216
Suitland, Maryland 20233
Tel: (301) 763-7432

Camp Springs Information Service Center

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
World Weather Bldg., Room 702E
5200 Auth Road
Camp Springs, Maryland, 20233
Tel: (301) 763-8266

National Oceanographic Data Center

Attn: Chief, Data Index Branch (D782)
National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
Page Bldg. 1; Rm. 276
2001 Wisconsin Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20235
Tel: (202) 634-7298

NOAA Miami Library

(Attn: RF20x4)
Atlantic Oceanographic
and Meteorological Laboratories
Virginia Key
Miami, Florida 33149
Tel: (305) 350-1330

NODC/Liaison Officer

NOAA
15 Rickenbacker Causeway
Virginia Key
Miami, Florida 33149
Tel: (305) 350-1111

National Climatic Center

Attn: Chief, User Services Branch
National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
Federal Bldg.
Asheville, North Carolina 28801
Tel: (704) 258-2850, x370

NODC/Liaison Officer

Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
Rm. 317A, Clark Laboratory
Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543
Tel: (617) 548-1400, x546

Chief, Library Services

(Attn: R51)
Environmental Research Laboratories
National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
1209 Radio Bldg.
Boulder, Colorado 80302
Tel: (303) 499-3788

NODC/Liaison Officer

NOAA
P.O. Box 271
La Jolla, California 92037
Tel: (714) 453-2204

NODC/Liaison Officer

NOAA 3711-15th Avenue, N.E.
Seattle, Washington 98105
Tel: (206) 543-5276

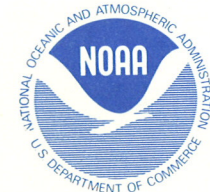
Cost of Services

NOAA employees are not charged. For others the cost of ENDEX/OASIS referral services is determined by the type of search provided and the number and character of the data files searched. For example, although the average cost of a search and retrieval is \$50, for a simple request it could be as low as \$5. In some cases, there may be no charge at all. In any case, there is no obligation for the initial contact, and a firm estimate of costs will be provided the user before a chargeable search is made.

Training Courses

ENDEX/OASIS training courses are available to interested groups. The training sessions consist of an overview and computer-terminal demonstration of the systems and "hands-on" terminal practice in using the ENDEX/OASIS systems.

Groups desiring to attend such a course should contact either the Systems Branch of EDS' Environmental Science Information Center, telephone (202) 634-7334 or the Data Index Branch of EDS' National Oceanographic Data Center, telephone (202) 634-7298. Demonstrations can be arranged in EDS offices, in Washington, D.C.; Woods Hole, Mass.; Miami, Fla.; La Jolla, Calif.; or Seattle, Wash.



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